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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	PATENT
	:	
Jens Laurvig HAUGAARD	:	
	:	
Serial No.: 10/570,764	:	Art Unit:
	:	
Filed: March 7, 2006	:	Examiner:
	:	
For: CONSTRUCTION-KIT SYSTEM	:	

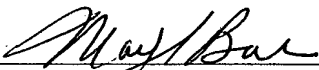
**SUBMISSION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an English language Preliminary Examination Report for the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Dated: August 19, 2006

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

BARTELS UND PARTNER  
Lange Strasse 51  
70174 Stuttgart  
ALLEMAGNE

Bartels und Partner  
Patentanwälte

Received: 26. JULI 2006

TERMIN .....

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 20 July 2006 (20.07.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 40cdh/229244/PCT	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP2004/009567	International filing date (day/month/year) 27 August 2004 (27.08.2004)
Applicant HYDAC ACCESSORIES GMBH et al	

## 1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

## 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

## 3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
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1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yolaine Cussac

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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 40cdh/229244/PCT	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/009567	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 27 August 2004 (27.08.2004)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 11 September 2003 (11.09.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant HYDAC ACCESSORIES GMBH		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the report                                                                                                                                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II   | Priority                                                                                                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention                                                                                                                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited                                                                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application                                                                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application                                                                                                           |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Date of issuance of this report 10 July 2006 (10.07.2006)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">                     Authorized officer   <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Yolaine Cussac</div> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">e-mail: pt11@wipo.int</td> </tr> </table>	Date of issuance of this report 10 July 2006 (10.07.2006)	Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Yolaine Cussac</div>	e-mail: pt11@wipo.int
Date of issuance of this report 10 July 2006 (10.07.2006)				
Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Yolaine Cussac</div>				
e-mail: pt11@wipo.int				

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Translation

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

## PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
**40cdh/229244/PCT**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**  
See paragraph 2 below

International application No. <b>PCT/EP2004/009567</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>27.08.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>11.09.2003</b>
-----------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
**F15B1/26, F15B13/00**

Applicant  
**HYDAC ACCESSORIES GMBH**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/009567

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/009567

Box No. II      Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date in the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/009567

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 4-8	YES
	Claims 1-3	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-8	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-8	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US 2002/038671 A1 (JOHNSON KENNETH ALAN)

4 April 2002 (2002-04-04)

D2: US-A-4 080 983 (STUMPMEIER FRITZ)

28 March 1978 (1978-03-28)

2 Novelty

2.1 Regarding claim 1

The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claims 1-3 is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

Document D1 discloses (the references between parentheses apply to this document; see the passages and figures cited in the search report):

a modular system comprising at least one main valve block (202) with at least two groups of connection

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/009567

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

lines (306, 324, 206, 204B, 316, 340, 344, 346)  
which are all interconnected in a fluid-conducting  
manner at one point (206) via a connection line of  
one of the groups (306, 342, 206), at least two  
further connection lines of this group (306, 324,  
206) each being connected to an assignable  
connection line of the other group (204B, 316, 340,  
344, 346), at least three dummy components (208)  
being connected into the connection lines of the  
other group (204B, 316, 340, 344, 346) for the  
insertion of predeterminable valve components, and  
at least two further dummy components (208) being  
connected between a common connection line of the  
other group (204B, 316, 340, 344, 346) and in each  
case another assignable connection line  
[see figure 3B] of this other group (204B, 316, 340,  
344, 346).

Moreover, claim 1 would appear at least not to be  
inventive over document D2.

2.2 Regarding claims 2 and 3

The features of these claims are likewise described  
in document D1 (see, in particular, paragraphs  
59-63).

3 Inventive step

The present application does not meet the  
requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the  
subject matter of dependent claims 4-8 does not



WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/009567

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

involve an inventive step within the meaning of PCT Article 33(3). These claims do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

The additional features of claims 4-8 are obvious to a person skilled in the art (claims 4, 6-8) or known as such from D1 (claim 5; cf. the passages cited in the search report). A person skilled in the art would therefore consider the inclusion of these features in the modular system described in D1 to be a routine measure for solving the problem of interest and would thus arrive at a modular system according to each of claims 4-8 without being inventive.